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have to be shifted to make way for new shafts. On the other hand, no changes seem to be planned in the operation of the following pits:

- a. In the vicinity of Most: "Vitezny unor", "Nejedly", "Julius I - IV", "Kolumbus", "Centrum", "Mathilde" and "Minerva".
  - b. In the vicinity of Osek (N51/F24) and Lom (N51/F13): "Alexander" (present name "Gottwald" pit), "Biel", "Kohinoor", "Johann", "Himmelfuerst" and "Marie" (present name "Nejedly" pit).
  - c. In the vicinity of Sous (N51/F13) and Jeneri (N51/F03): "Grohmann", "Hedwig" and "Juno".
  - d. In Bohosudov (N51/F34): "Doblhof" and "Milada".
4. In the vicinity of Bilina (N51/F23) coal seams in the pits "Amalie III - V" and "Ludwig" have been completely exhausted, and the pit "Emeran" will be exhausted in the near future.
  5. In Lednice (N51/F23) mining has been stopped in the pit "Frantiska", while the pit "Masaryk" near Brestany (N51/F24) has been enlarged and its capacity increased.
  6. In the vicinity of Duchcov the old pit "Glueckstern" has been reopened.
  7. Production in the synthetic gasoline plant "Stalinovy zavody, n.p." in Zaluzi (N51/F13) showed lately a considerable decrease in comparison with the 1945 production level. The whole plant gives the impression of a slowly dying mammoth.

1.  Comment. Both the  appear to be too small in view of the paramount importance of the North Bohemian coal basin for Czechoslovakia's brown coal production. According to figures available here,  brown coal and lignite production in 1953 amounted to approximately 34,500,000 metric tons, of which some 93 per cent, came from the Most and Sokolov coal basins. In 1954 the Most coal basin alone allegedly produced in the neighborhood of 22,000,000 metric tons of brown coal and lignite and the Sokolov area, the second largest brown coal basin in the CSR, around 9,000,000 metric tons.

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2.  Comment. Two reports  give the "Medard" pit production as 1,600 to 1,950 metric tons per day, and 60,000 metric tons per month respectively. It seems, therefore, rather unlikely that even a considerable enlargement of the pit and modernization of equipment could increase its output almost ten times.

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3.  Comment.   
 All the German pit names have been identified on German maps and their location,  found correct. Czech pit names listed  in this report have been found in the 1955 telephone directory. Their map location, however, could not be confirmed here.

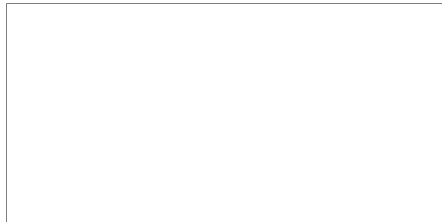
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4. [ ] Comment. The 1949 census gave the population of Kostany as 3,279. [ ] (15,000) therefore appears to be considerably exaggerated, even if due allowance is made for a probable population increase as a result of the border region re-settlement efforts and the stress laid on coal mining by the Prague regime. 25X1
5. [ ] Comment. This is the first report received here indicating a decrease in production of subject plant. If [ ] true, it would probably suggest a change in the gasoline supply policy within the Soviet bloc. The plant was heavily damaged by aerial bombardment towards the close of WW II and it is known that great efforts were made by the Czech government to bring it speedily into operation again in order to cover a considerable part of Czech gasoline consumption. According to a report [ ] the plant employed some 12 to 15 thousand workers and consumed large quantities of brown coal produced by the North Bohemian brown coal basin. If the assertion of its greatly limited operation were correct, Czechoslovakia would probably be in a position to offer substantially more brown coal for export than hitherto. 25X1



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